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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Fernando C. Vidaurri, et al.

Serial No.: 10/609,087

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: METHOD TO DECREASE
CORROSIVENESS OF REACTANTS
IN POLY (ARYLENE SULFIDE)
POLYMER PRODUCTION

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Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: Buttner, David J.

Atty. Docket: CPCM:0002-1/FLE/RAR
33776US01

Commissioner for Patents
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37 C.F.R. 1.8

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August 9, 2006
Date

Helen Tinsley
Helen Tinsley

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR REHEARING UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.197(b) AND M.P.E.P. § 1214.03**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.197(b) and M.P.E.P. § 1214.03, Appellants hereby request rehearing of the Decision on Appeal mailed on June 9, 2006, for the above-referenced application. The points that Appellants believe to have been misapprehended or overlooked in rendering the decision, and all other grounds upon which rehearing is sought, are set forth below. Appellants limit the discussion to the rejections of dependent claims 68 and 71.

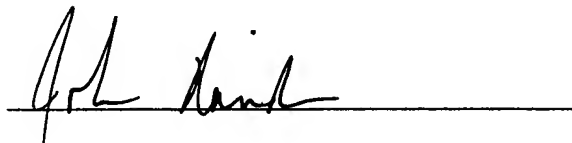
In the Decision on Appeal, the Board overturned the Examiner's rejection of claims 68 and 71 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. However, the Board apparently affirmed the Examiner's rejection of claim 71 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Campbell, and claims 68 and 71 under 35

U.S.C. § 103(a) over Campbell in view of Koyama. Dependent claim 68 recites "wherein lithium halide is not added to the vessel." Dependent claim 71 recites "wherein a lithium halide is not added to the sulfur source, to the solution, or to the mixture." As summarized in the Appeal Brief, these two claims require that lithium halide *not* be added to the recited vessel or to the reaction contents. See Appeal Brief, pages 6 and 9-10.

The Board overlooked the fact that the Examiner did not point to any passage in Campbell or Koyoma that would anticipate or render obvious the subject matter described herein separately recited in claims 68 and 71. Consequently, the Examiner did not establish a *prima facie* case of anticipation or a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to the subject matter at issue in claims 68 and 71. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully request that the Board reconsider its decision and overturn the Examiner's rejections of claims 68 and 71, and direct the Examiner to allow claims 68 and 71.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 9, 2006



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